

DRAFT

WEST WINDSOR PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes
June 26, 2019

Present: Al Keiller, Ray Shannis, Mike Dudley, Laura Stillson, Jason Rasmussen, Catherine Baumgartner and Deb Shearer.

1. Call to Order —Chair Al Keiller called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.
2. Changes or Additions—None
3. Announcements /Public Comment—Al welcomed Catherine Baumgartner who was attending the meeting as a relatively new community member interested in the planning process.
4. Update to Town Plan —Survey Results Jason presented survey results. A total of 161 responses. The results will be included in the Town Plans as an Appendix. In general, the survey revealed that no major changes to the vision statement and goals for the update were necessary. Laura commented she has been hearing a need/desire for a regional arts committee, similar to the regional recreation committee that has recently been formed. This was supported by the survey. Although, there were mixed results regarding identifying policies regarding adult substances, the majority of the comments were against retail cannabis sales in town. A majority of the respondents said the tax burden was of concern. Review of plan timeline. The Commission reviewed the timeline for having the update completed by February of 2020. They are behind on schedule and will adjust accordingly. Jason explained if the Town Plan expires, no changes of zoning regulations could be made, and it could hold up grant monies. While not ideal, it is not catastrophic, to be a month or 2 behind. Chapter 7 Natural Resources Jason updated the water quality studies and added updated water shed planning information as well the stats of current use. The commission discussed Forest Blocks, a new section which identifies important habitat for wildlife movement and plant diversity. Historic resources— Deb will contact the Historical Society to be sure they review Policies and recommendations before they are finalized. Chapter 9 Energy Jason outlined what was entailed in the State’s enhanced energy plan and explained not all towns are adopting it. The Commission agreed, they would review and digest all the associated appendices come to the next meeting prepared with questions to discuss the pros and cons of adoption.
5. Sustainability update—Ray Shannis met with Michael Caduto, Director of Sustainable Woodstock. He believes it will be important to form a sustainability committee that can focuses on specific items, hold educational events and advise the town in creating and meeting sustainability goals. Al suggested forming a sustainability committee be a recommend strategic goal in plan.
6. VTrans 2019 Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant—The Selectboard did not support request for \$5,500 to match 20% of the grant request at this time.
7. Other Business—None
8. Approve Minutes—**Mike moved to adopt the May 29th minutes as written. Laura seconded, the motion passed unanimously.**
9. Adjourn — After setting the next meeting date for Wednesday July 24th, the meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deb Shearer